

Chairman of the Ways & Means Committee to addressing this crisis.

For example, about 50 percent of American workers work for an employer that does not offer a retirement plan at work. To make a significant dent in this coverage gap, it's critical that we enact legislation that requires employers that don't currently offer a retirement plan to at a minimum provide their employees with an auto IRA option.

I'm also pleased that the American Rescue Plan Act includes the Butch Lewis Emergency Pension Plan Relief Act of 2021, which would create a special financial assistance program under which cash payments would be made by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to financially troubled multiemployer pension plans to ensure that such plans can continue paying retirees' benefits for the next 30 years.

What we have here is a national emergency that we need to address immediately. If Congress doesn't act, the multiemployer pension system could collapse entirely, leaving retirees in poverty, businesses in bankruptcy, and communities in crisis.

Reform for both the multiemployer and single employer retirement plan system is a priority for the Ways and Means committee and we plan on addressing these issues this year.

I commit to working with Ms. DAVIDS on this as we move forward.

RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ANTI-ASIAN SENTIMENT AS RELATED TO COVID-19

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, it has been over a year since we have seen continued COVID-19 related threats and attacks against the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. As millions across our nation continue to be impacted by the coronavirus, many continue to live in fear following the dramatic increase of threats and attacks against those of Asian descent. Recently, we have seen further escalation of horrific incidences of elderly AAPIs assaulted—resulting in even death.

Due to perpetuating anti-Asian rhetoric, misinformation, racism, discrimination, and unfounded blame for the spread of COVID-19, there has been over 3,000 reported incidents of anti-Asian hate crimes, including AAPIs being threatened, harassed, or assaulted, or having had their businesses vandalized. Just recently, in my district of Flushing, New York, a 52-year-old Asian woman was attacked and forcefully shoved while waiting in line outside of a bakery—resulting in her needing ten stitches on her head. Additionally, a 61-year-old Filipino man was viciously attacked and slashed across his face on a New York City subway.

It breaks my heart that, for over a year, in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis, Asian Americans have been left fighting an additional front—that of hate and bigotry.

That is why I am reintroducing my resolution condemning all forms of anti-Asian sentiment as related to COVID-19. This resolution denounces the anti-Asian sentiment and recognizes the safety and well-being of all Americans during these unprecedented times.

Madam Speaker, I was proud that in the last Congress, the House passed this resolution 243 to 164. However, in light of the recent dramatic increase of anti-Asian hate incidents across our country, we must coalesce and renew our efforts to condemn all manifestations of racism, xenophobia, discrimination, and anti-Asian sentiment and scapegoating. We must denounce any and all anti-Asian sentiment of any form.

Madam Speaker, the House must remain strong, and stand against the sickening intolerance, bigotry, and violence that is leaving a terrible stain on our nation's history, especially during this moment of an unprecedented public health crisis. I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort to keep all Americans safe.

HONORING GARY CREED

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Gary Creed of Shawsville, Virginia, who passed away on January 28, 2021 at the age of 74. Gary was a member of the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors for several terms who worked hard for the people of the county.

Gary was the son of Melvin Lewis and Ada Mae Moore Creed. He was elected to the Board of Supervisors in 2001 as the representative of District C. He promoted the Meadowbrook Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library and the Meadowbrook Community Center, supported first responders, and successfully pushed to reduce the merchants capital tax, a move that eased a burden on local businesses without depriving the county of revenue. Gary served as Chairman of the Board in 2004. He retired in 2017. In the town of Elliston, part of District C, a park currently under construction has been named after him in honor of his service.

Gary was a longtime employee at the Shelor Motor Mile auto dealership and had also worked as an auctioneer and real estate developer. He loved the sport of basketball and coached Amateur Athletic Union girls basketball.

Gary is survived by his wife, Linda Creed; son Tim Creed and wife Barbara; daughter Niki Shumate and husband John; brothers Wilford Creed and Clyde Creed; sister Elizabeth Brammer; granddaughters Bridgette Bradley and husband James, Karalee Boggess and husband Mark, Karli Shumate, and Lauryn Shumate; and great-grandchildren Jaxon, Jacob, Holt, Boone, and Allie. I offer them my condolences on their loss. Our system of government depends on citizens such as Gary Creed, who take on the tasks of local government in order to improve their communities.

RECOGNIZING DINA CHACON-REITZEL

HON. YVETTE HERRELL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Ms. HERRELL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge this year's winner of the

New Mexico Cattle Growers Association's King Service award, Dina Chacon-Reitzel. This award is given to New Mexicans that have exhibited long standing dedication to the state's agricultural industry and those who work within it. Born into the agricultural life, Dina grew up on a cattle ranch that has been in her family for hundreds of years. She has spent most of her career with the New Mexico Beef Council, where she fought to protect the cattle industry and pioneered implementations of consumer information programs, as well as additional research within the beef industry.

Dina's advocacy spans from local entities, where she is involved with the New Mexico 4-H Foundation, all the way to the Federal government. She currently braves the Washington bureaucracy to advocate for the New Mexico State University College of ACES, where she serves as a citizen advocate for the USDA Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching.

This is not the first time Dina's efforts have been recognized. As a chairwoman on the New Mexico State University's Board of Regents she was awarded the New Mexico Outstanding Leadership Award for significant leadership towards agriculture. She was also given the Friend of Extension Award and was the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award by the New Mexico State University. She was also recognized by the New Mexico Department of Agriculture with the Industry Partner Award.

Dina have exhibited the upmost dedication and leadership to the state of New Mexico and its agricultural industry, and I congratulate her on this award.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. MELVIN BANKS

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and commemorate the life and works of Dr. Melvin Banks, the founder of Urban Ministries, Incorporated. A prodigious soul, by the age of 12, Dr. Banks was already spreading the word of the gospel throughout his native state of Alabama, sharing stories of the Bible with younger children. It was when he was preaching in Birmingham that Dr. Banks heard a verse from the Book of Hosea that would change his life "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." Hearing this verse caused Dr. Banks to even further dedicate himself to spreading the gospel across the country and the world.

Dr. Banks' study of the Bible would take him to Chicago's Moody Bible Institute, where he was one of the institution's few Black students, graduating in 1955. However, Dr. Banks' education as a Christian in Chicago would not revolve solely around the classroom. At the urging of a chapel speaker, Dr. Banks visited a Brethren church on the city's South Side. This experience led him to the vital realization that he didn't need to diminish his blackness to live the fullest Christian life that he could. There, Dr. Banks would also meet and marry Olive Perkins, who would remain his partner throughout his life. He then continued his theological education in the Chicagoland area